

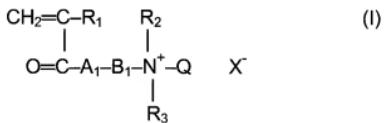
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application and reflects the amendment of claims 1, 22 and 27.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. **(Currently Amended)** A process for the production of paper which comprises;

- (i) providing a suspension containing cellulosic fibers, and optional fillers,
- (ii) adding to said suspension a drainage and retention aid comprising at least 0.001% by weight, based on dry stock substance, of an anionic microparticulate material and at least 0.001% by weight, based on dry stock substance, of a cationic organic polymer which comprises in polymerized form a cationic monomer having an aromatic group represented by the general formula (I):



wherein R<sub>1</sub> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, A<sub>1</sub> is O or NH, B<sub>1</sub> is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group, Q is benzyl, and X<sup>-</sup> is an anionic counterion, wherein the polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture consisting essentially of from 2 to 50 mole% cationic monomer having an aromatic group and from 98 to 50 mole% (meth)acrylamide; and

- (iii) forming and dewatering the obtained suspension on a wire, wherein the suspension that is dewatered on the wire has a conductivity between 2.4 and 10 mS/cm.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 1, wherein the suspension that is dewatered on the wire has a conductivity of at least 5.0 mS/cm.

3. **(Original)** The process of claim 1, wherein the cationic organic polymer is a vinyl addition polymer comprising in polymerized form one or more monomers comprising at least one monomer having an aromatic group.
4. **(Original)** The process of claim 1, wherein the cationic organic polymer is an acrylamide-based polymer.
5. **Cancelled.**
6. **(Original)** The process of claim 1, wherein the cationic organic polymer has a weight average molecular weight of at least 1,000,000.
7. **(Original)** The process of claim 1, wherein the cationic organic polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from 5 to 20 mole% of cationic monomer having an aromatic group and from 95 to 80 mole% of other copolymerizable monomers.
8. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 1, wherein the anionic microparticulate material comprises anionic inorganic particles.
9. **(Original)** The process of claim 8, wherein the anionic inorganic particles are silica-based particles or bentonite.
10. **(Original)** The process of claim 8, wherein the anionic inorganic particles are aluminium-modified silica-based particles.
11. **(Original)** The process of claim 1, wherein the drainage and retention aid further comprises a low molecular weight cationic organic polymer.
12. **(Original)** The process of claim 8, wherein the drainage and retention aid further comprises a low molecular weight cationic organic polymer.

13. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the drainage and retention aid further comprises an aluminium compound.

14. **Cancelled.**

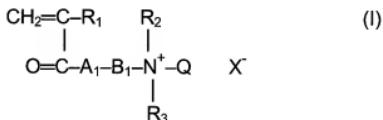
15. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the suspension comprises recycled fibers.

16 -20. **Cancelled.**

21. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the suspension that is dewatered on the wire has a content of di- and multivalent cations of at least 300 ppm.

22. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of paper which comprises;

- (i) providing a suspension containing cellulosic fibres, and optional fillers,
- (ii) adding to said suspension a-drainage and retention aids comprising a cationic organic polymer which comprises in polymerized form a cationic monomer having an aromatic group represented by the general formula (I):



wherein  $\text{R}_1$  is H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{R}_2$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are each an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms,  $\text{A}_1$  is O or NH,  $\text{B}_1$  is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group, Q is benzyl, and  $\text{X}^-$  is an anionic counterion, wherein the polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture consisting essentially of from 2 to 50 mole% cationic monomer having an aromatic group and from 98 to 50 mole% (meth)acrylamide; and anionic microparticulate material;

(iii) forming and dewatering the obtained suspension on a wire, wherein the suspension that is dewatered on the wire has a conductivity between 2.4 and 10 mS/cm and obtaining a wet web of paper and white water, recirculating white water and introducing fresh water to form a suspension containing cellulosic fibres, and optional fillers, to be dewatered, wherein the amount of fresh water introduced is less than 20 tons per ton of dry paper produced.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 22, wherein less than 10 tons of fresh water is introduced per ton of dry paper produced.

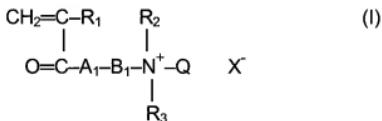
24. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 22, wherein the anionic microparticulate material is anionic organic particles.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 22, wherein the anionic microparticulate material is anionic inorganic particles.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 25, wherein the anionic inorganic particles are silica-based particles.

27. **(Currently Amended)** A process for the production of paper which comprises;

(i) providing a suspension containing cellulosic fibers, and optional fillers,  
 (ii) adding to said suspension drainage and retention aids comprising a cationic organic polymer which comprises in polymerized form a cationic monomer having an aromatic group represented by the general formula (I):



wherein R<sub>1</sub> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, A<sub>1</sub> is O or NH, B<sub>1</sub> is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group, Q is benzyl, and X' is an anionic counterion, wherein the polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture consisting essentially of from 2 to 50 mole% cationic monomer having an aromatic group and from 98 to 50 mole% (meth)acrylamide; and anionic organic particles; and

(iii) forming and dewatering the obtained suspension on a wire, wherein the suspension that is dewatered on the wire has a conductivity between 5.5 and 10 mS/cm.

28. **Cancelled.**

29. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 1 wherein the suspension that is dewatered on the wire has a conductivity of at least 7.5 mS/cm

30. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 27 wherein the anionic organic particles are cross-linked anionic vinyl addition polymers.

31. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 27 wherein the cationic organic polymer is an acrylamide-based polymer.

32-48. **Cancelled.**

49. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 1 wherein the cationic monomer is dimethylaminoethylacrylate benzyl chloride quaternary salt or dimethylaminoethylmethacrylate benzyl chloride quaternary salt.

50. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 1 wherein the drainage and retention aid further comprises anionic organic particles.

51. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 50 wherein the anionic organic particles are cross-linked anionic vinyl addition polymers.

52. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 1 wherein the drainage and retention aid further comprises a water-soluble anionic vinyl addition polymer.

53. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 52 wherein the water-soluble anionic vinyl addition polymer is a copolymer comprising an anionic monomer which is acrylic acid, methacrylic acid or sulfonated vinyl addition monomer.

54. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 52 wherein the water-soluble anionic vinyl addition polymer is a copolymer comprising acrylamide.

55. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 9 wherein the anionic inorganic particles are silica-based particles having a specific surface area above 100 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

56. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 22 wherein the cationic monomer is dimethylaminoethylacrylate benzyl chloride quaternary salt or dimethylaminoethylmethacrylate benzyl chloride quaternary salt.

57. **(Previously Presented)** The process of claim 27 wherein the cationic monomer is dimethylaminoethylacrylate benzyl chloride quaternary salt or dimethylaminoethylmethacrylate benzyl chloride quaternary salt.